

In re Patent Application of:

CHUAN ET AL.

Serial No. **10/056,394**

Filed: **JANUARY 24, 2002**

REMARKS

Applicant gratefully acknowledges receipt of the signed copy of EIDS form filed September 26, 2002. Please forward the remaining copies, as discussed in the previous correspondence, whenever possible for our records.

Claims 1 to 40 are currently pending. Claims 1 to 40 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) in view of United States Patent No. 4,432,604 (Schwab) alone or in combination with United States Patent Application Nos. 2002/0167793 (Branch et al) or 2003/0020986 (Pang et al).

The claims of the application have been amended to overcome the objections of the Examiner and to better define the invention in light of the prior art. In particular, independent claims 1, 15, 23, 26, and 29 have been amended to include the features of claim 9 and to define that the lever actuator "flexes" the cage away from the fiber optic module, thereby releasing the hook on the module from the latch on the cage (Page 29, lines 15 to 20). This feature is both novel and non-obvious. The lever 18 of the Schwab device simply rotates the pawl 162 into contact with the detent 164. Accordingly, the lever 18 does not "lever between the module and the cage" nor does the lever 18 "flex the cage, thereby releasing the catch from the latch". The release mechanism according to the present invention is much simpler than that of Schwab, and takes advantage of the inherent flexibility of the mounting cage by providing a latch on the module for engaging a catch on the cage, and a lever for flexing the cage to release the catch from the latch. The complexity and the

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size of the release mechanism in the Schwab device make it impossible for use in a small fiber optic module.

Furthermore, claim 8 has been amended and claim 42 has been added to clarify that the EMI shield extends "from the lever arm between the nose receptacle and the optical port". Accordingly, a single element carries out both the features of a release latch and an EMI shield. Moreover, the EMI shield, by extending between two elements of the fiber optic module, provides a solid anchor for the lever arm, thereby providing the necessary robustness for the lever arm to repeatedly pull the module from the cage, while acting as an EMI shield.

Claims 3, 4, 9, 20 to 22, 37 and 38 have been canceled to expedite prosecution.

Claims 41 and 42 have been added to ensure all aspects of the invention are protected. No new matter has been added with the addition of these claims.

As such, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims remaining in the application are in condition for allowance. Early and favorable consideration would be appreciated.

Should any minor informalities need to be addressed, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including Extension of Time fees, to

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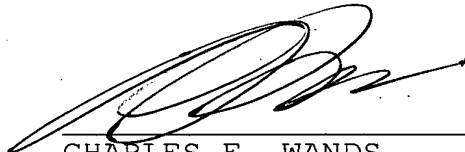
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Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: M/S AMENDMENT, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, PO BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, on this 25 day of August, 2004.

